

Wellsboro Borough Council Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2020

Council Vice President John Sticklin called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Meeting Room of the Borough Office at 14 Crafton Street. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Attending were Councilors John Sticklin, Mike Wood, Matt DeCamp, Lou Prevost, Joan Hart, Acting Mayor F. Craig West, Junior Council Member Katarina Swendrowski, Borough Manager Scot F. Boyce, Jr., Chief of Police Jim Bodine, and Secretary/Treasurer Susan L. Keck.

Minutes of the June 8, 2020 Council Meeting were approved by motion of Councilor Prevost, seconded by Councilor Wood, and carried.

Minutes of the June 19, 2020 Special Council Meeting were approved by motion of Councilor DeCamp, seconded by Councilor Hart, and carried.

Public Comments on Agenda Items - none

HARB: No applications in July, the Robinson's have submitted their parking lease as agreed. Vineyard Church has not, so we will send the approvals out after the receipt of the parking lease.

General Government, Administration, Buildings, Personnel

Councilor Hart made a motion to ratify and approve accounts payable for all accounts. Councilor Prevost seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Councilor Hart made a motion to approve the May, 2020 Treasurers Report. Councilor Wood seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The borough's allocation of Act 13 Impact fees is \$98,992.30. \$10,000 of this is committed to the Marsh Creek Greenway project, with \$5,000 committed to the project in 2021.

Two Conditional Use hearings are scheduled for July 27th, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. for two applications for a Bed and Breakfast to be operated at 65 Central Avenue and at 145 Main Street.

Safety, Police, Fire, Protective Inspections, Codes, EMA

Mayor's Report- Acting Mayor F. Craig West presented Junior Council Member Katarina Swendrowski a 'Certificate of Appreciation for her time on Council.

Police Report

Councilor Wood made a motion to approve purchase of Police Department Tahoe for Borough Office use at cost of \$8,000; the cost be split among the water, sewer and general accounts. Councilor Prevost seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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Public Works, Solid Waste, Highways, Parking, Water, Sewer

Lou Prevost made a motion to approve a resolution to appeal to PennDOT for an engineering study to move the Brake Retarder Signs closer to the Borough Line. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hart and carried unanimously. The Borough Secretary will prepare the resolution and deliver it to Representative Owlett gain his support in this matter.

Wellsboro utility customers can choose to receive their bills through email. To sign up, visit the borough's website and click on the "View eBills" tab below the calendar.

Parking Meter enforcement resumed July 1st.

Parks & Recreation, Trees, Beautification, Senior Center

Woodland Park Rehab Project, Phase 1 bid awarded to LandServ, Inc., at a special meeting held on June 19th. The total project cost is \$861,561.00.

The discount membership rate of \$99 for Packer Park Pool has been extended through the end of July.

Public Comments

1. Raquel Rogers and Anna Wales of 30 Bodine Street addressed the issue of keeping of chickens/fowl in borough, appealing to Council to change and update the current ordinance to allow this in certain locations in certain circumstances. Council appointed a committee to thoroughly look into the matter. Jean Pier, Steven Gastrock, Ryan Jones, and Bill Niles, all of Bodine Street, spoke in support of the chickens being allowed at 30 Bodine Street.
2. Bill Niles, Tim Cole and Steven Gastrock of Bodine Street, all vehemently complained about the road work on Bodine, the sidewalks at Dunhams, the Nichols Street enclosed vehicle storage, the animal ordinance, street sweeping, a police officer not wearing a mask at the BLM protest, and two members of Council not fully covered by masks at the meeting.

County Commissioner Roger Bunn gave a summary of the importance of filling out and returning the 2020 Census. He described how Census data is used in our county. The borough of Wellsboro has a 62.7 % response rate as of the date of the meeting.

Next Borough Council Meeting is August 10th, 2020 at 5pm.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m. by a motion of Councilor Prevost, seconded by Councilor Hart, and carried unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by


Secretary/Treasurer